



REMARKS

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Amendment to the Claims

Per the examiner's direction, all the claims have been amended to add the limitation of Claims 4 and 5 into all independent claims. Claims 4 and 5 have been correspondingly canceled.

The Art Rejection

In the Official Action of July 13, the examiner indicates that Claims 4 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. While applicant does not concede the examiner's discussion of the prior art uncovered (JP 62-69957) is correct as to novelty or complete as to obviousness, in the interest of early allowance, the claims involved have been modified to incorporate the limitation of Claims 4 and 5 into the independent claims. This is being done without prejudice.



CONCLUSION



Applicants' attorney believes the examiner will find that neither novelty or obviousness are now at issue. Early allowance of the amended claims is therefore requested.

It would be greatly appreciated if the undersigned was telephoned in the event that any questions remain, or are newly raised by this response.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Cronin
Registration No. 35,848
Rheox, Inc.
Wyckoffs Mill Road
Hightstown, NJ 08520
Tel. 609-443-2590

Date: November 15, 2001



Attorney Docket No.: EL-8122

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the accompany Response in this matter is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 15, 2001

Brenda L. Heaton
(Name of person making deposit)

Brenda L. Heaton
(Signature)

November 15, 2001
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